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**Sentry™ Sage**  
*Salvia splendens 'Sentry'*

Height: 10 inches

Spread: 10 inches

Spacing: 8 inches

Sunlight: ☉

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Ornamental Sage, Tropical Sage

**Description:**

A beautiful salvia variety featuring a strong branching, compact-upright habit, great for containers, borders and beds; early flowering spikes of bright, vibrant red are produced from late spring throughout the summer; easy to grow and low maintenance

**Ornamental Features**

Sentry Sage has masses of beautiful spikes of red tubular flowers with red calyces rising above the foliage from late spring to early fall, which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its attractive pointy leaves remain green in color throughout the season.

**Landscape Attributes**

Sentry Sage is an herbaceous annual with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant. Trim off the flower heads after they fade and die to encourage more blooms late into the season. It is a good choice for attracting bees, butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Sentry Sage is recommended for the following landscape applications;



*Sentry Sage flowers*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



*Sentry Sage in bloom*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



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- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

### **Planting & Growing**

Sentry Sage will grow to be about 8 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 10 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 8 inches apart. Although it's not a true annual, this plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under typical garden conditions. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. This plant should not require much in the way of fertilizing once established, although it may appreciate a shot of general-purpose fertilizer from time to time early in the growing season. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Sentry Sage is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a mass of flowers and foliage against which the larger thriller plants stand out. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.

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